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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON) at 11 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

PATRIOT ACT REAUTHORIZATION

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, one of the things we have learned since September 11 is that legislation like the PATRIOT Act is absolutely necessary, so I want to commend the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), and the committee itself for working to prepare legislation reauthorizing the PATRIOT Act.

I was disappointed to learn that many of the Democrats opposed the legislation in committee, especially in light of the London bombings. Prior to September 11, this country did not have the legal and intelligence infrastructure necessary to pursue terrorist cells operating on our own soil. Republicans in Congress said never again, and we took action to be sure that our police and intelligence agencies were working together to prevent terrorism. The PATRIOT Act should be reauthorized with overwhelming bipartisan support.

I hope Democrats will finally realize we cannot afford to be soft on terrorism here at home and will join Republicans in supporting this bill when it comes to the House floor.

157TH ANNIVERSARY OF SENECA FALLS, NY WOMEN'S CONVENTION

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, on this day in 1848, one of the first public appeals for women's suffrage was made when Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton called a women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York. For over 70 years, women organized, marched picket lines, and chained themselves to the White House fence until women won the right to vote with the 19th amendment in 1920.

Suffragettes should be remembered, and last week I introduced a resolution

to establish a day to commemorate America's suffragettes. It was not long ago that women in this country did not have the right to vote, and we ought not take that right for granted. Women have a responsibility to exercise that right and make a difference in this country.

We women do have this responsibility to show our patriotism, demonstrate good citizenship by setting an example for our children by participating in the political process and by casting our vote in this country to elect our representatives.

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION ACT

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Constitution of the United States reads in part "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press." These freedoms represent the bedrock of our democracy, by ensuring a free flow of information to the public.

Sadly, these freedoms are under attack. And while politicians here in Washington, D.C. engage in a familiar clash along the fault lines of the politics of personal destruction, a much greater scandal languishes in a quiet prison cell in suburban Washington, D.C. in the sad image of an American journalist behind bars whose only crime was standing up for the public's right to know.

Judith Miller is not alone. In the past year, nine journalists have been given or threatened with jail sentences for refusing to reveal confidential sources. That is why my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BUCHER), and I have introduced the Free Flow of Information Act, which will have its first hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee tomorrow.

Nothing less than the public's right to know is at stake, and I urge my colleagues to join us in standing for a free and independent press by supporting and cosponsoring the Free Flow of Information Act.

GREENSPAN TO TESTIFY ON STATE OF ECONOMY

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan will testify before the Committee on Financial Services on the state of the economy. During his testimony, Chairman Greenspan will undoubtedly argue that ours is a healthy growing economy. But while he is explaining the flattened yield curve, I am hoping he will take the time to explain the curve balls being thrown at America's middle class.

As the Wall Street Journal reported today, "In the past few years, overall

consumer prices have risen a little over 8 percent while wages have remained flat for the middle class."

Gasoline prices, up 55 percent; electricity, 11 percent; health care costs, 10 percent; college costs, 12 percent; and the ability to save for retirement is getting harder and harder. For public servants, like teachers, police officers, and firemen, they are being priced out of the housing market.

While he expounds on America's monetary policy, the 10-year note, the housing bubble, Chairman Greenspan should take the time to explain what is happening to America's middle class as they face a flattened wage and rising costs. As their incomes remain unchanged, the barrier to the middle class keeps rising.

Mr. Speaker, the questions that Chairman Greenspan needs to answer are the challenges that face today's middle class, not just the 10-year note.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on June 30, the Department of Homeland Security and the FBI's Safe Street Gang Task Force arrested 10 members of the SUR-13 gang on illegal immigration charges in my district. The largest gang bust in Alpharetta, Georgia, history serves to spotlight the ever present need to secure our borders.

These illegal gang members are not only taking American jobs and tax money, they are also taking American lives. These gang members distribute dangerous drugs, they commit murders, assaults, drive-by shootings and auto thefts. We must get serious about immigration reform.

Mr. Speaker, 400,000 illegal aliens who have been ordered deported are still in this country because their deportation orders have not been enforced. In many cases, after being ordered deported by a judge, the illegal alien simply walks out of the courtroom without so much as someone ensuring that they leave the country.

Mr. Speaker, our immigration policies are broken. One of the SUR-13 gang members put it all in perspective. When ordered deported, he said, "I'll be back. It's so easy. People here are stupid."

Our borders need to be secured and the time to act is now.

WOMEN AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the women suffragettes who began their campaign for women's right to vote 157 years ago today in Seneca Falls in New York. It